

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 80

Monday, August 16, 2004

Members and Staff Participating

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Robert Moshenko	Member
Nick Amautinuak	Member
Paul Pemik	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Kevin McCormick	Member
Jim Noble	Chief Operating Officer
Evie Amagoalik	Interpreter
Annie Aningmiuq	Secretary

Not Available

Harry Flaherty	Member
DIAND	Member Vacant
DOE Nunavut	Member Vacant

Other Participants

Karen Ditz	DFO, Iqaluit
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Monday, August 16, 2004

1. Opening by Chairperson

Ben Kovic convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed members.

2. Review/Approval of Agenda

The members decided (**Resolution 2004-048**) to approve the agenda as presented.

3. Review/Approval of a Mansel Island Test Fishery for Sea-run Arctic Charr

The DFO Biologist reviewed the Mansel Island Test Fishery briefing note with the members. It was noted that this Island is outside the Nunavut Settlement Area and in Zone 1 therefore the NWMB has recommendation authority only. There was a question whether the Department of Environment should be notified of this activity. The Board decided (**Resolution 2004-049**) to recommend approval of the test fishery to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans with the further recommendation that DFO Quebec and Makivik be encouraged to ensure this test fishery is completed.

4. Review/Decision on Dianne River Closure to Gill Net Fishing – Rankin Inlet

The DFO Biologist reviewed the briefing note with the members. It was noted that the Rankin Inlet HTA had recommended this closure for two different times and written a letter to DFO as such. It was noted that DFO and the HTA will meet to define boundaries of the closure and the time span. The Board decided (**Resolution 2004-050**) to support the Rankin Inlet HTA request for closure of the Dianne River and to direct DFO to arrange a variation notice for this fishery.

5. Review/Decision on Whale Watching Regulations Under the Marine Mammal Regulations

The DFO Biologist reviewed the briefing note with the members. It was noted that consultations occurred with the Baffin communities but the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq tours did not occur. Further consultation is expected to occur at upcoming RWO AGM's. The NWMB noted that they would not be participating in the consultation process, but would like to be informed in a timely fashion on any community concerns.

6. Review/Decision on Makivik Request for Kivalliq Beluga

The DFO Biologist in consultation with the NWMB Director of Wildlife Management prepared a joint briefing note on this issue. The joint recommendation suggested that:

- A one-time hunt of 20 additional whales would be a low conservation risk for WHB belugas;
- Due to harvest statistics from 2003 of WHB beluga it was suggested that the 20 additional whales would be safer than the proposed KWB total of 30;
- This advice should be considered for one year only;
- That HTO's in the Kivalliq should have a system in place to ensure that the numbers of belugas hunted for Nunavik are limited to a combined total of 20 animals; and that hunters should be chosen to do the hunt rather than leaving it open, to prevent over-harvest.
- That a management plan for the WHB beluga be developed in the near future for the Kivalliq communities.

After considerable discussion, the Board decided (**Resolution 2004-051**) to not

support the request of Makivik for an additional 28 whales from the West Hudson Bay beluga stock.

6.A. Kitikmeot Narwhal Study

The DFO Biologist advised that the Kitikmeot narwhal survey was completed and data analysis will be completed this fall. Information will be shared with the community through posters explaining results of the survey. New data may affect the quotas, but this information will not be available until late 2004 or spring of 2005.

7. Review/Decision on Clearwater Request to Fish Shrimp in the NSA

The Chief Operating Officer reviewed the briefing note with the members. This is a request from Clearwater Seafoods Ltd (under Unaaq Fisheries) to fish inside the Nunavut Settlement Area for striped pink shrimp. There was some concern that the company was requesting this permission rather than the license holder QC. The members also wanted to have some indication from the BFC on what they are planning. The Board decided (**Resolution 2004-052**) to have staff check with QC and BFC on their requirements and then offer Clearwater something under 500 tonnes for an allocation.

8. Review/Decision on Harvest Study Data Disposal

The Chief Operating Officer reviewed the briefing note with the members. This request was for approval to destroy the numerous storage boxes of Harvest Study data sheets which have all been scanned and stored digitally. It was noted that there are chances that certain data sheets are not scanned properly, but it is felt that possibility of requiring the original documents for verification are slim. Due to the shortage of storage room it was recommended that the Board approve destruction of these records. The Board decided (**Resolution 2004-053**) to approve the destruction/shredding of all Harvest Study Data Sheets.

9. Staff Changes – Update

The Chief Operating Officer advised that the Director of Wildlife, Dr. Michelle Wheatley had departed for her new position with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans effective August 13, 2004. It was also confirmed that Josee Galipeau's position had been upgraded to the Conservation Biologist position as approved by the Board.

10. NWMB Signing Authority Changes

The Board decided (**Resolution 2004-054**) to remove Michelle Wheatley and add Tom Demcheson, Director of Finance and Administration for the Board's signing authority at the Royal Bank of Canada in Iqaluit.

11. Other Business

The Board decided to meet in Yellowknife the weekend before the next regular Board meeting in Kugluktuk to complete the Strategic Plan for the NWMB.

The Chief Operating Officer advised that the quote on the new office space offered by Nunavut Construction Corporation was much higher than that offered by the Board's current office owners and hence no action was taken.

The Board also gave permission to the Chief Operating Officer to proceed with plans for the office renovations in the Parnaivik Building 924.

Plans were also discussed with regards to screening and interviews for the position of Director, Wildlife Management for the Board. A selection committee of Jim, Ben, Joannie (Robert as alternate) and Nick were appointed.

12. Meeting adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____

Chairperson
Date

RESOLUTIONS: CONFERENCE CALL NO. 80

Resolution 2004-048: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Nick Amautinuvar
Carried

Seconded by: Robert Moshenko
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-049: RESOLVED that the NWMB recommend approval of the test fishery for sea-run arctic charr on Mansel Island for Nunavik to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans with the further recommendation that DFO Quebec and Makivik be encouraged to ensure this test fishery is completed as soon as possible.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-050: RESOLVED that the NWMB support the Rankin Inlet HTA request for closure of the Dianne River for the period July 1 to 31 and August 1 to 21, 2004 and to direct DFO to arrange a variation notice for this fishery.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Carried

Seconded by: Kevin McCormick
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-051: RESOLVED that the NWMB not support the request of Makivik for an additional 28 whales from the West Hudson Bay beluga stock for the summer of 2004.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Carried

Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-052: RESOLVED that the NWMB have staff check with QC and BFC on their requirements for shrimp in the NSA and then offer Clearwater something under 500 tonnes for an allocation for striped pink shrimp inside the NSA.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-053: RESOLVED that the NWMB approve the destruction/shredding of all Harvest Study Data Sheets.

Moved by: Joannie Ikkidluak
Carried

Seconded by: Nick Amautinuak
16 August 2004

Resolution 2004-054: RESOLVED that the NWMB remove Michelle Wheatley and add Tom Demcheson, Director of Finance and Administration for the Board's chequing account signing authority at the Royal Bank of Canada in Iqaluit.

Moved by: Robert Moshenko
Carried

Seconded by: Joannie Ikkidluak
16 August 2004